

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicants : Stuart M. Pitson et al.
Application No. : 10/549,548
Filed : June 26, 2006
For : A METHOD OF MODULATING SMOOTH MUSCLE CELL
FUNCTIONING BY MODULATING SPHINGOSINE KINASE
MEDIATED SIGNALLING

Examiner : Chih-Min Kam
Art Unit : 1656
Docket No. : 650063.404USPC
Date : July 6, 2009

Mail Stop Amendment
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT AND
RESPONSE TO RESTRICTION REQUIREMENT

Commissioner for Patents:

In response to the Restriction Requirement dated January 5, 2009, please extend the period of time for response five months, to expire on July 5, 2009. Enclosed are a Petition for an Extension of Time and authorization to charge the requisite fee.

Applicants hereby elect the following species: **hypertension** (claim 13) as one disease and **an antagonist to the sphingosine kinase expression product** (claim 23) as a modulating agent, for examination at this time..

Amendments to the Claims are reflected in the listing of claims which begins on page 2 of this paper.

Remarks begin on page 10 of this paper.